

to the description of this Gannet was seen flying low over the water one evening.

LESSER FRIGATE-BIRD (*Fregata ariel*).

Every evening about dusk a small flock of these fine birds, well known for their trait of robbing other birds,* used to circle over our island, allowing us to admire the inimitable grace and ease of their movements. We succeeded in discovering their roosting-place—tall casuarinas at the other (east) end of the island, where, on more than one occasion, we distinctly saw their lengthened forms silhouetted against a brilliant moon.

Frigate-Birds were not observed on North-West Island, but a dead bird was examined on Tryon Island.

Concluding Note.—Having enumerated the 40 species of birds identified during a brief visit to these islands, we venture to believe that the observations recorded concerning the White-eye,† New Zealand Bronze-Cuckoo, and the Wedge-tailed Petrel are, in the interests of ornithology, alone well worth the trouble and expense of the members who formed the R.A.O.U. Expedition to the Capricorns.

Description of a New Queensland Lorikeet.

By D. LE SOUËF, R.A.O.U., MELBOURNE.

TRICHOGLOSSUS COLESI, n. sp.

The head, sides of the face, and throat dull blue, with a lighter stripe down the centre of each feather; bill reddish-brown, lighter at the tip and with a short longitudinal yellow line at the curve; lower mandible lighter than the upper one; eyes light yellow, and the bare space round them blackish; a narrow yellowish-green band across the occiput, with some of the feathers finely tipped with dark blue; all the upper surface green, but most of the feathers crossed with a dark band, edged with a narrow one, giving the back a mottled appearance; upper secondaries marked in the same way, and show a distinct dark band; the slightly spatulate tips of the lower secondaries marked with blue, as well as the tips of some of the feathers on the shoulder; the green of the outer edging of the primaries also has darker shadings; their inner webs are black, crossed by a broad band of bright yellow; upper tail coverts mostly tipped with blue; the four centre tail feathers green throughout, and the four feathers on each side of them have their outer web green and with a portion of their inner web bright yellow, and edged to the tip; these eight feathers are also spatulate. Under tail coverts reddish at their base, then yellow, fol-

* See Dr. Macgillivray's remarks, page 228.

† Notwithstanding so sound an authority as Mr. A. J. North states that "*Zosterops westernensis* is only the spring and summer livery of *Z. lateralis (caeruleus)*."—"Nests and Eggs of Birds," vol. ii., p. 210.

lowed by green and tipped with blue ; feathers of the abdomen grey at their base, then crossed by a reddish band, and the end blue : the scarlet feathers of the breast mostly tipped with blue, and some with a narrow band across them, giving them a slightly scaly appearance ; sides under the shoulder of the wing are also similar. but the scarlet feathers on the upper portion of the under surface of the wing have no markings on them ; a very few feathers on the upper breast are broadly tipped with yellow ; feet and toes blackish ; flesh pink, not dark red, as in *T. novæ-hollandiæ* ; the breast-bone $\frac{1}{2}$ inch shorter than in that bird.

Total length, 11 ; wing, $5\frac{3}{4}$; tail, $4\frac{1}{2}$; tarsus, $\frac{1}{2}$; culmen, $\frac{3}{4}$ inches.

This interesting bird is one of the results of the visit to Queensland of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union for their annual meeting and working camp outing. One of its members, Mr. Clifford Coles, of Sydney, shot the new bird at Gladstone on 8th November, and it is with pleasure that I name it after him, who, with his father and brothers, has been well known to Australian ornithologists for many years.

This bird probably ranges over the greater portion of Eastern Queensland, and its nearest ally is *T. novæ-hollandiæ*.

Birds of the Blackalls.

By J. W. MELLOR, R.A.O.U., ADELAIDE.

AFTER members of the Royal Australasian Ornithologists' Union had investigated bird-life on the Capricorn Islands, off the coast of Queensland, during the tenth session, it was thought a good opportunity, while returning to Brisbane, to study the habits of tropical land-birds by visiting the Blackall Ranges ; and, accordingly, several members left the main party on the southward journey from Gladstone, and spent an exceedingly pleasant and profitable fortnight at the northern extremity of these wild ranges, where no less than 75 species of birds were identified by myself, while a number of others were recognized by the settlers as being present at one or other time of the year, but were not seen during the all too brief time at our disposal.

Cooroy, the more recently opened up country, was our objective, it being on the main railway line between Brisbane and Rockhampton, about 80 miles north of the northern capital, and situated at the highest point above sea-level that this line attains. The weather was crisp and clear, and a bright moon was shining, when, between 2 and 3 o'clock in the morning of 20th October, the express train, by special request, pulled up at Cooroy station, and we were roused from our snug sleeping berths, which the Queensland Government had so thoughtfully provided for us, in addition to passes over their northern lines. Our baggage and effects, which were not inconsiderable, were quickly hauled on to the